

## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1804

March 15, 2007

The Honorable David M. Walker  
Comptroller General of the United States  
Government Accountability Office  
441 G Street, NW  
Washington DC, 20548

Dear Mr. Walker:

Another very serious question regarding the government's investment in the reconstruction of New Orleans has surfaced. According to press accounts based on internal memoranda and eye witness testimony, the Army Corps of Engineers installed defective flood control pumps around the levee system that protects the New Orleans Metropolitan region. Reportedly, despite awareness within the Army Corps of Engineers about the mechanical problems of the pumps provided by Moving Water Industries (MWI), installation continued.

Needless to say, Providence was very kind to the State of Louisiana in the last hurricane season, for had we need to call upon our flood control system last year, it seems as though another tragedy would have resulted.

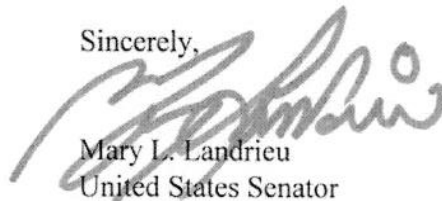
The circumstances of this contractual award, the danger it posed to hundreds of thousands of people in the New Orleans region, and the disturbing suggestions of possible improper influence require the attention of our government. An investigation from an independent source is necessary to provide the Public and People of Louisiana confidence in its conclusions.

Resultantly, I request that the Government Accountability Office immediately undertake an investigation of the Army Corps of Engineers rationale for the installation of faulty flood control pumps despite internal memoranda indicating their insufficiency for the task. Furthermore, the investigation should examine the contract arrangements with the company in question and should determine whether or not any improprieties exist in the award or fulfillment of these contracts. Finally, because of the urgent nature of this matter, I request that this investigation be completed within 60 days.

Mr. Walker, I deeply appreciate your attention to this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of assistance or further clarify the intent of this request.

With warmest regards, I am

Sincerely,



Mary L. Landrieu  
United States Senator